

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A device for driving a first ~~gradient~~ driving cable, the device comprising;

a guide tube at least partly surrounding at least a section of the first driving cable;
a housing supporting the first driving cable in its longitudinal direction;
a driving pinion meshingly engaging with a first portion of the first driving cable; and
a freely rotatable first guide wheel meshingly engaging with the first portion of the first driving cable,

wherein the first portion of the first driving cable is disposed between the driving pinion and the first guide wheel.

~~a first guide wheel supporting the first driving cable at a level with the first portion of the first driving cable, wherein the first guide wheel comprises a first bearing spindle defining a first guide wheel axis, the first bearing spindle being mounted on an eccentric for adjustment of the first bearing spindle with respect to the driving pinion.~~

Claim 2 (previously presented): The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the housing accommodates the first driving cable, and wherein the first guide wheel is secured to the housing.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The device as recited in claim 1, further comprising a second driving cable and a second guide wheel, the second driving cable being driven by the driving pinion simultaneously with the first driving cable, and the second guide wheel supporting the second driving cable at the same level as the first guide wheel.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The device as recited in claim 3, wherein the driving pinion includes a first driving cable inlet side, a first driving cable outlet side, a second driving cable

inlet side, and a second driving cable outlet side, and the device further comprises a first and a second guide tube portion at least partially surrounding the first driving cable and disposed, respectively, at the first driving cable inlet side and the first driving cable outlet side, and wherein the device further comprises a third guide tube portion and a fourth guide tube portion at least partially surrounding the second driving cable and disposed, respectively, at the second driving cable inlet side and the second driving cable outlet side.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the driving pinion includes an inlet side and an outlet side and wherein the first driving cable is at least partly surrounded by a first guide tube portion disposed at the inlet side and by a second guide tube portion disposed at the outlet side.

Claim 6 (original): The device as recited in claim 5, wherein at least one of the first guide tube portion and the second guide tube portion includes a conical enlargement at an end proximal to the driving pinion.

Claim 7 (original): The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the guide tube includes a supporting collar disposed in form-fitting engagement in a recess in the housing and supporting the guide tube in a longitudinal direction.

Claim 8 (original): The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the housing includes a bearing bushing for pivotably receiving the first guide wheel.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The device as recited in claim 8, wherein the first guide wheel includes a central circular collar extending radially with respect to the bearing spindle, said central collar engaging the first driving cable.

Claim 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (original): The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the housing includes an upper housing half and a lower housing half.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The device as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a method of constructing the housing is selected from the group consisting of casting parts, die casting parts, precision casting parts, forming parts, sheet-metal forming parts and constructing parts.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a second guide wheel, the second guide wheel being adjustable with respect to the driving pinion.
~~supporting the first driving cable essentially at a level with the first portion of the first driving cable, wherein the second guide wheel comprises a second bearing spindle defining a second guide wheel axis, the second bearing spindle being mounted on an eccentric for adjustment of the second bearing spindle with respect to the driving pinion.~~

Claim 14 (new): The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first guide wheel is displaceable in a direction towards and away from the driving pinion, such that a distance between the first guide wheel and the driving pinion is adjustable in response to a thickness of the first driving cable.